

Faculty to vote on proposal

Linked courses and plus/minus grading to be considered

By MEGAN O'MATZ
Collegian Staff Writer

The University Faculty Senate will vote on a proposed general education program and a new grading policy when it meets at 1:30 today in 112 Kern, the senate executive secretary said.

George Bugyi said the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Instruction will present eight recommendations to the senate concerning general education. The recommendations would strengthen the current bachelor's degree requirements without making drastic changes.

Under the proposed program, the seven categories of general education: communications, quantification, arts, social and behavioral sciences, humanities, natural sciences, and health science and physical education, are identical to BDR categories, Bugyi said.

To fulfill general education requirements, students would continue to be required to complete 46 credits distributed among the seven categories, he said.

Varying from current BDR requirements, the third recommendation of the proposal calls for 24 credits to be linked either by sequence or theme.

According to the proposal, sequentially-linked courses, such as History 20, 200 and 441, require the completion of prerequisite courses. Thematically-linked courses, such as American history, art and literature classes, focus on common themes in courses from different academic disciplines.

Recommendation four of the proposal calls for courses that meet general education program requirements to be available no later than Fall Semester 1988. Prior to this the senate would review current course offerings and develop new courses that meet general education program goals, the proposal states.

should be recognized and students encouraged to elect these courses." Bugyi said the senate reviewed and reformed the Baccalaureate Degree Program because it wants students to be liberally educated adults upon graduation.

"Our hope is that engineering students, for example, can sit down with someone after graduation and discuss literature, art and things other than engineering," he said.

The Senate Committee on Undergraduate Instruction is also proposing that the undergraduate grading system be revised to include divisions between all grades above a C, Bugyi said.

According to the proposal, an A-minus would equal a 3.67 grade point; a B-plus, 3.33; a B-minus, 2.67 and a C-plus, 2.33.

"In the final analysis it appears that with additional grades between the conventional A, B and C that there will be a new incentive for students to work harder, learn more and improve their academic performance," the proposal states.

The Undergraduate Instruction Committee states in the proposal that a committee should be formed to consider the impact of plus/minus grades on graduate studies taking undergraduate courses, the impact of the revised grading system on students who began their studies under the existing grading system, and the effect revised grades could have on student financial aid eligibility.

In other business, the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Instruction will present a report which reviews the University's basic skills program, Bugyi said.

According to the report, in Fall 1984, 33 percent or 3,335 of 10,270 University first-semester freshmen, were deficient in math, English or both.

police log

• The State College Police Department reported that 21-year-old Carol Turi, a New Jersey resident visiting State College, has been missing since she left to visit friends April 25. Turi has dark brown hair, is about 5 feet 4 inches tall and weighs about 145 pounds.

• State College police reported that 17-year-old William Bulge of State College has been missing since Friday night. Bulge has light brown hair and green eyes, is 5 feet 11 inches tall and weighs about 155 pounds. He was last seen wearing jeans and a gray short-sleeved shirt.

• The Marketing Club will have Marketing Association sign-ups for 1985-86 at 7 tonight in 321 HUB.

• The Agronomy Club will meet at 7:30 tonight in 15 Tyson.

• Eco-Action will meet at 8 tonight in 318 HUB.

• The History Roundtable will present speaker Donald Graves from the U.S. State Department at 7:30 tonight in 111 Forum.

• The Friends of Latin America will meet with Central Pennsylvania Citizens for Survival at 7:30 tonight in 218 Willard.

• The Microcomputer Information and Support Center will hold Hewlett-Packard Vendor Day from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. today in 103 Computer Building.

• The Volunteer Action Center will offer a free sandwich to anyone registering as a new volunteer during the national volunteer week, April 22-28.

• Drew Garbin, 220 N. Burrows Road, reported Sunday that a license plate belonging to Lykens Automotive, 827 S. Atherton St., was missing from a vehicle parked in Parking Lot Red A, University police said. Police estimated value at \$24.

—by Kim Ajeck

collegian notes

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Photo by Lance Armstrong

the Collegian Penn State's daily morning newspaper

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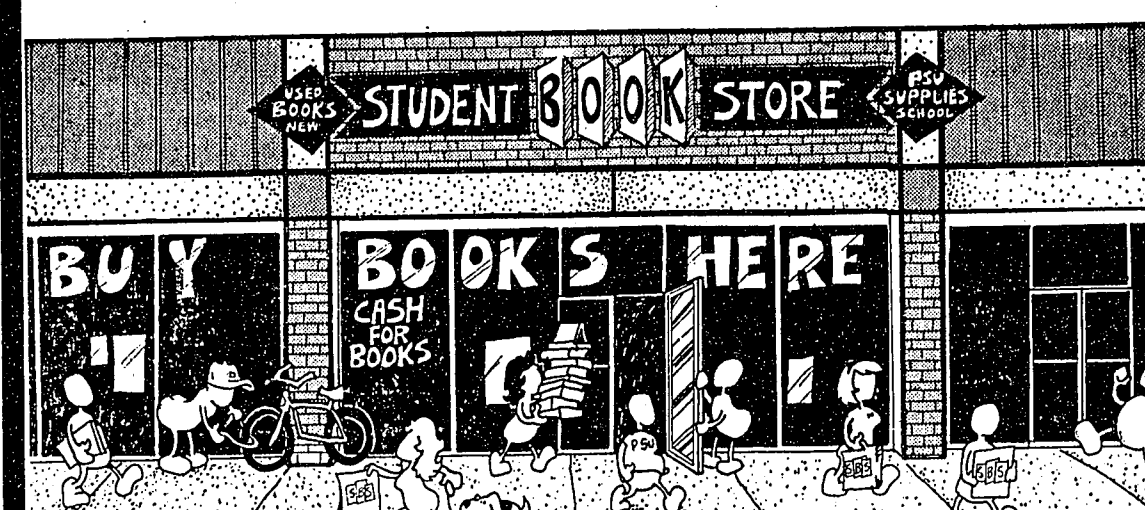
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Cable renovation almost complete

By ERIC SCHMIDT
Collegian Staff Writer

Installation of Centre Video's planned renovation of the cable system in State College is almost complete, manager Jeffrey Fisher said.

Centre Video, which has been replacing cable since early this year to provide nine more channels, has achieved about 45 percent of its goal, Fisher said.

Installation of the cable will provide nine more channels to residents in State College and surrounding areas, Fisher said.

The new services will bring a rate increase to customers from \$8.50 to \$10.30 effective July 1.

Because these channels are on the superband frequency range, reception of the channels will require a converter box for most televisions, Fisher said.

Televisions able to receive more than 13 channels will be able to receive the additional channels without installing a converter box, he said. However, if the customer desires Showtime, Cinemax or HBO, a box is still necessary.

The installation is going relatively trouble-free, Cain added.

Replacement, which is nearly complete in the municipalities surrounding State College, should be completed in the borough in two weeks, Fisher said.

Jim Cain, assistant foreman at Centre Video, said some problems have resulted from the new equipment because customers are unfamiliar with it. The converter box essentially takes over the function of the tuner knob, and to allow the box to function properly, it must remain plugged in and the television must remain on channel 3.

Occasionally, a customer will neglect to plug the unit in or move the television from channel 3.

Another problem, Cain added, results when customers attempt to connect a video cassette recorder to the converter. Most problems can be resolved by reading the converter manual, Cain said.

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2 faculty members elected to private science organization

By NAN CRYSTAL ARENS
Collegian Staff Writer

Two University faculty members were among 60 scientists recently elected to the National Academy of Sciences, a prestigious private organization that promotes science and its applications to general welfare.

William T. Sanders, professor of anthropology, and Stephen J. Benkovic, Evan Pugh professor of chemistry and holder of a University chair in biological sciences, were elected to the academy, a University public relations representative said.

Marcus Schneek said the new members were elected at the academy's 122nd annual meeting in Washington, D.C., last Tuesday.

The induction of Benkovic and Sanders brings the total of National Academy of Sciences members at the University to four. Other members at the University include P.S. Skell, Evan Pugh professor of chemistry, and Paul Baker, Evan Pugh professor of anthropology and head of the University's anthropology department.

Thomas Wartik, dean of the College of Science, said he is pleased that the academy is "a great honor."

"This is, next to the Nobel Prize, the highest honor given to scientists in this country."

Paul Baker, professor of anthropology

Baker said, "This is, next to the Nobel Prize, the highest honor given to scientists in this country."

Wartik added that the addition of more faculty members to the academy will enhance the University's reputation throughout the scientific community.

"People stand up and take notice when one of your faculty is elected to the National Academy of Sciences," Wartik said.

Baker said, "I think (the recent elections) are an indication that Penn State is producing better scientists

Publisher urges blacks to adjust

Changing economy will not bridge racial gap, Graves says

By VICTORIA PETTIES
Collegian Staff Writer

Black America must prepare to adjust to today's changing economy by filling corporate positions, directing the world of black businesses did not change much from the end of World War II until the early 1970s.

With the advent of the Nixon administration in the late 60s, black-owned businesses started to show major economic growth, Graves said.

"America's top black-owned firms also followed mainstream economic trends last year by branching out and diversifying," Graves said.

Graves also cited Black Enterprise researcher's findings, published annually in The Economic Outlook — a special section of the magazine, which include:

- Black Americans represent 17 percent of the United States population, but about 35 percent of blacks live below poverty level.
- The number of black single-parent households has grown dramatically today. Three out of five black children are raised by black women, many of whom are either unemployed or underemployed.
- Even though black unemployment in the United States is declining, it will remain twice as high as white unemployment.
- Although the black middle class has grown in recent years, a higher percentage of black middle class families depend on two incomes than white middle income families of the same income level.
- If strong measures are not initiated to reduce the federal deficit, the economy could drift into another recession causing higher unemployment, especially among blacks.

because individuals were selling alcohol without the proper permits, police reported.

Police also said several live bands performing without proper township permits were ordered to cease playing until permits could be obtained.

Police were not certain if the individuals were ordered to leave the park by the Lions Club. Lions Club President Lynn Henney was not available for comment.

Brian Brady (senior-accounting) said there were no apparent problems at the Blowout.

"It was low key," Brady said. "No live bands, just a lot of loud music."


He said that he was surprised at the number of people who attended the Blowout.

"It was far less than what the Bash has been in past years, but it was pretty good," Brady said.

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